

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7155

BILL NUMBER: SB 491

DATE PREPARED: Jan 5, 2002

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Tobacco Settlement Enforcement Proceedings.

FISCAL ANALYST: Kathy Norris

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FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
☒ **DEDICATED**
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill specifies that the Attorney General may disclose certain information in an action to enforce the Tobacco Master Settlement. The bill also permits the Attorney General to receive reasonable attorney's fees in connection with enforcing the Tobacco Master Settlement.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999 (retroactive).

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill would clarify that the Department of Revenue information relating to the volume of cigarettes taxed could be released to and used by the Office of the Attorney General to enforce the escrow account requirements for manufacturers of tobacco products who do not participate in the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement.

The bill also entitles the Attorney General to receive reasonable attorney's fees in connection with the enforcement of the escrow account requirements. This would represent a refund of expense incurred by the Attorney General's Office. Any fees collected could be used to offset General Fund appropriations or reverted to the General Fund at the discretion of the Attorney General.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Revenue, Office of the Attorney General.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Jennifer Thuma, Assistant Director for Legislative Affairs for the Office of the Attorney General, (317) 233-6143.